

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

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DEPT PASS OTP FOR PROBST, FAA FOR ARD/KEYS, FCC FOR CE/CUTTS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ETEL ITU CH

SUBJECT: ITU: POSSIBLE US APPROACH TO PRC DELEGATION TO ITU
GROUP OF EXPERTS ON RADIO REGULATIONS

1. DEPARTMENT'S ADVICE REQUESTED REGARDING POSSIBLE APPROACH TO
PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA DELEGATION TO GROUP OF EXPERTS (G/E)
PRESENTLY MEETING TO PREPARE DRAFT OF REARRANGEMENT OF INTERNATIONAL
TELECOMMUNICATION UNION RADIO REGULATIONS (RR).

2. STATEMENTS MADE DURING MEETING MAKE CLEAR CHINESE CONCERN OVER
TERMS AND CONTOURS APPEARING ON MAPS CONTAINED IN APPENDIX 26
(AP26) AND AP27 TO RR. (BOTH APPENDICES TREAT AERONAUTICAL RADIO
FREQUENCIES.) SPEAKING ON MATTER CLEARLY OUTSIDE COMPETENCE OF
G/E, CHINESE DELEGATE STATED THAT MAPS CONTAINED NAMES NO LONGER
IN USE AND INCORRECT BOUNDARY LINES. CHAIRMAN OF MEETING AGREED
TO CHINESE REQUEST THAT REPORT OF G/E CONTAIN MENTION OF CHINESE
STATEMENT. MATTER ENDED THERE, WITH NO FURTHER DETAIL COMING
TO LIGHT ON CHINESE CONCERNS.

3. USDEL SUGGESTS CONSIDERATION SHOULD BE GIVEN TO LOW-KEY,
BILATERAL APPROACH, OUTSIDE MEETING, BY USDEL TO PRC DEL,
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AIMED AT ASCERTAINING SPECIFIC DETAILS OF CHINESE OBJECTIONS

TO AP27, WHICH WILL BE CONSIDERED AND REVISED AT AERONAUTICAL WORLD ADMINISTRATIVE RADIO CONFERENCE (AEROWARC) TO BE HELD MARCH-APRIL 1977. USDEL BELIEVES KNOWLEDGE OF CHINESE VIEWS ON AP27 WOULD MATERIALLY ASSIST IN USG PREPARATIONS FOR AEROWARC, PRESENTLY IN FULL SWING.

4. POSSIBILITY MUST BE CONSIDERED, OF COURSE, THAT BY RAISING MATTER WITH CHINESE, US MIGHT ENCOURAGE PRC TO MOUNT SERIOUS EFFORT AT 1977 AEROWARC, WHEREAS IT MIGHT OTHERWISE LIMIT ACTION THERE TO "FOR THE RECORD" TYPE STATEMENTS. WE BELIEVE THIS RISK IS MINOR. THE CHINESE HAVE GOINE OUT OF THEIR WAY TO RAISE ISSUE IN FORUM CLEARLY LACKING COMPETENCE TO TREAT IT, AND IT SEEMS REASONABLE TO ASSUME THEY WILL MAKE SERIOUS EFFORT TO HAVE AP27 CHANGED BY CONFERENCE CONVENED SPECIFICALLY TO TREAT IT.

5. AN IMPORTANT ASPECT OF QUESTION IS NATURE OF PRC CONCERNS. WE DO NOT KNOW, FROM LIMITED DETAILS GIVEN IN CHINESE INTERVENTIONS, WHETHER MATTER CONFINED TO TAIWAN DESIGNATION OR WHETHER OTHER ISSUES ARE INVOLVED.

6. IF, IN CONTEXT OF PARAS FOUR AND FIVE AND OVERALL US-PRC RELATIONS, DEPARTMENT SO AUTHORIZES, APPROACH TO PRC DEL ENVISAGED ALONG FOLLOWING LINES:

A. CHINESE STATEMENTS OF CONCERN RE AP27 HAVE BEEN NOTED AND ARE OF PARTICULAR RELEVANCE IN LIGHT OF FORTH-COMING AEROWARC BEING CONVENED SPECIFICALLY TO REVISE SAME.

B. US DEL DOES NOT CONTAIN AERONAUTICAL EXPERTS AND CANNOT, OF COURSE, NEGOTIATE OR COMMIT USG IN ANY WAY.

C. US DEL BELIEVES, HOWEVER, THAT MUTUAL INTERESTS COULD WELL BE SERVED IF US DEL COULD RECEIVE, TO CARRY HOME, MORE DETAILED KNOWLEDGE OF CHINESE CONCERNS RE AP27.

7. SHOULD PRC DEL DESIRE CONVEY VIEWS REGARDING AP26 AS WELL, US DEL WOULD OFFER TO RECORD SAME, NOTING HOWEVER THAT AGENDA FOR 1977 AEROWARC LIMITED TO CONSIDERATION OF AP27.

8. IT IS POSSIBLE THAT, ASSUMING PRC DEL NEEDED TO CHECK WITH PEKING, G/E MIGHT END (LAST DAY IS 13 FEB) BEFORE BILATERAL CONSULTATION COULD BE ARRANGED. IN SUCH EVENT, CONSIDERATION CONFIDENTIAL

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MIGHT BE GIVEN TO ITU ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL MEETING OF JUNE 1976 AS APPROPRIATE FORUM FOR COMMUNICATION OF CHINESE VIEWS. PRC SPOKESMAN (AND HEAD OF DELEGATION TO G/E) IS LIU YUAN, DEPUTY DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS, MINISTRY OF POSTS AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS; LIU ALSO SERVES ON ADMIN COUNCIL. US REQUEST FOR CHINESE VIEWS COULD BE LEFT WITH LIU BEFORE END OF G/E MEETING, WITH REQUEST THEY BE CONVEYED IN COURSE OF ADMIN COUNCIL MEETING.DALE

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